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1974/1975

Alberta

annual
report
April 1, 1974
March 31, 1975

Alberta - Fish + Wildlife Division - Annual Report

FISH AND WILDLIFE DIVISION

Alberta

LANDS AND FORESTS

1974-75 c.1

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FISH AND WILDLIFE

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both to the public and in-service. Although there was no significant increase in Hunter Training graduates a systematic review and approach to the areas was carried out.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR

G.R. KERR

The fiscal year of 1974-75 marked meaningful progress in the recently created "Buck for Wildlife" program. Numerous projects were completed in both fisheries and wildlife interests while several long term efforts began to materialize.

The resolution of conflicts between wildlife and private property received greater attention through the establishment of a Problem Wildlife Management Team separate from the Fur Industry Development Team programs. Additional staffing and services were available. The three phase philosophy of damage prevention, compensation and animal control proved successful by both reducing private property losses and reducing the need to remove animals. A number of damage prevention methods were tested.

The creation of the Extension Services Branch as an emphasized program brought new planning and understanding of information needs plus training opportunities

Elk harvest management advanced through the introduction of a quota-draw system for female elk. This Antlerless-Elk-Authorization program proved successful in controlling elk harvest as well as reducing landowner conflict and increasing hunting experience quality. The compulsory harvest registration aspect provided invaluable biological data.

Although hunter numbers declined, angler numbers increased over the year. Regulation violations reflected this trend with fisheries violations increasing and wildlife violations stabilizing.

Prosecutions increased overall from 1905 to 2618, an increase of 713. An additional 1815 warning tickets were written as a result of 5545 investigations and 7516 public complaints.

Efforts towards preventative law enforcement were made through the created slide show, "Outdoor Observer" and increased attention to public meetings.

ADMINISTRATION

TABLE 1

GAME

COMPARISON OF THE NUMBER OF WILDLIFE CERTIFICATES & GAME LICENSES ISSUED

	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74	1974-75
Resource Development Stamps			132,421	121,409
Wildlife Certificates	132,451	131,837	132,476	121,409
Bird Game Licences				
Resident	79,653	77,296	75,588	74,402
Non-Resident (Canadian)	4,881	5,106	5,728	5,128
Non-Resident (Alien)	994	1,096	1,093	998
Pheasant Shooting Ground Licences	----	----	6	----
Big Game Licences				
Resident Black Bear	2,805	3,274	4,016	4,483
Resident Caribou	276	434	374	238
Resident Elk	25,565	17,814	18,581	14,950
Resident Antlerless Elk Authority	----	----	666	543
Resident S416-S418 Elk (Ya Ha Tinda)	----	281	288	282

TABLE 1 continued

	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74	1974-75
Resident Goat	----	75	52	53
Resident Grizzly Bear	162	219	201	263
Resident Moose	43,911	40,554	42,102	34,728
Resident Moose, Elk or Deer (M.E.D.)	3,790	----	----	----
Resident Moose - Zone One	7,336	----	8,543	5,354
Resident Mule Deer	28,631	32,266	33,165	23,494
Resident Trophy Sheep	1,073	1,008	1,230	935
Resident Whitetail Deer	38,298	41,891	42,399	28,219
Resident Cougar	7	15	52	70
Resident Antelope	1,001	1,102	1,080	1,125
Resident Wainwright Deer	427	494	519	547
Resident Non-Trophy Sheep	310	329	299	280
Non-Resident and Non-Resident Alien Black Bear	317	366	434	384
Non-Resident and Non-Resident Alien Caribou	26	37	40	26
Non-Resident and Non-Resident Alien Cougar	----	3	3	8
Non-Resident and Non-Resident Alien Elk	292	353	320	257
Non-Resident and Non-Resident Alien Grizzly Bear	6	9	7	74
Non-Resident and Non-Resident Alien Male Moose	277	4,107	410	277
Non-Resident and Non-Resident Alien Moose - Zone One	4,385	---	3,304	1,601
Non-Resident and Non-Resident Alien Mule Deer	120	155	206	150
Non-Resident and Non-Resident Alien Trophy Sheep	199	123	107	87
Non-Resident and Non-Resident Alien Whitetail Deer	25	37	44	44
Non-Resident (Canadian) Antelope Licence	----	----	3	3
Non-Resident (Canadian) Special Big Game Licences	9	5	26	25
Guides Authority Non-Resident (Canadian) Special Big Game Licences	9	5	26	25
Duplicate Game Stamps	553	596	726	530
Archery Licences	334	344	579	709

TABLE 2

FISH

COMPARISON OF THE NUMBER OF ANGLING & FISH LICENSES ISSUED

	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74	1974-75
Resource Development Stamps	----	----	184,745	211,591
Resident and Non-Resident Canadian	156,575	171,863	180,847	206,331
Seasonal Non-Resident Non-Canadian	727	911	1,009	1,502
Limited Non-Resident Non-Canadian	2,182	2,479	2,889	3,758
Zone Commercial Licences	383	342	339	373
Zone Fisherman's Licences	1,261	1,201	1,149	1,290
Domestic Indian/Metis Licenses	101	100	136	158
Zone Recreational Licences	9	58	112	102
Spear Fishing Licences	417	438	504	519

TABLE 2 continued

	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74	1974-75
Trophy Lake Fishing Licences	404	806	1,017	1,219
Fish Marketing Licences - Class "A"			1	1
Fish Marketing Licences - Class "C"	13	12	--	1
Fish Marketing Licences - Class "D"			11	7
Commercial Game Fish Farm Licences				
Initial	28	23	10	16
Renewal			14	18
Private Game Fish Farm Licences				
Initial	354	465	388	699
Renewal			299	409
Restricted Game Fish Farm Licences	----	----	6	9

TABLE 3

REVENUES FROM WILDLIFE CERTIFICATES

FISH AND GAME LICENCES

1974-75 SEASON

	Number	Fee	Total Amount
Resource Development Stamps (Game)	121,409	\$ 1.00	\$ 121,409.00
Wildlife Certificates	121,409	3.00	364,227.00
Resident Bird Game Licences	74,402	2.50	186,005.00
Non-Resident Bird (Canadian)	5,128	5.00	25,640.00
Non-Resident Bird (Alien)	998	50.00	49,900.00
Resident Black Bear	4,483	5.00	22,415.00
Resident Caribou	238	10.00	2,380.00
Resident Elk	14,950	5.00	74,750.00
Resident S416-S418 Elk (Ya Ha Tinda)	282	5.00	1,410.00
Resident Goat	53	10.00	530.00
Resident Grizzly Bear	263	10.00	2,630.00
Resident Moose	5,354	5.00	26,770.00
Resident Mule Deer	23,949	5.00	117,470.00
Resident Trophy Sheep	935	10.00	9,350.00
Resident Whitetail Deer	28,219	3.00	84,657.00
Resident Cougar	70	10.00	700.00
Resident Antelope	1,125	10.00	11,250.00
Resident Antlerless Elk Authorization	543	5.00	2,715.00
Non-Resident (Canadian) Antelope Licences	3	25.00	75.00
Resident Wainwright Deer	547	5.00	2,735.00
Resident Non-Trophy Sheep	280	5.00	1,400.00
Non-Resident & Non-Resident Alien Black Bear	384	3.00	1,520.00
Non-Resident & Non-Resident Alien Caribou	26	100.00	2,600.00
Non-Resident & Non-Resident Alien Cougar	8	75.00	600.00
Resident Moose	34,728	5.00	173,640.00

TABLE 3 continued

	Number	Fee	Total Amount
Non-Resident & Non-Resident Alien Elk	257	100.00	25,700.00
Non-Resident & Non-Resident Alien Grizzly Bear	74	200.00	14,800.00
Non-Resident & Non-Resident Alien Male Moose	277	150.00	41,550.00
Non-Resident & Non-Resident Alien Moose-Zone One	1,601	100.00	160,100.00
Non-Resident & Non-Resident Alien Mule Deer	150	50.00	7,500.00
Non-Resident & Non-Resident Alien Trophy Sheep	87	200.00	17,400.00
Non-Resident & Non-Resident Alien Whitetail Deer	44	50.00	2,200.00
Non-Resident (Canadian) Special Big Game Licences	25	75.00	1,875.00
Guides Authority Non-Resident (Canadian) Special	25	25.00	625.00
Duplicate Licences	530	2.00	1,060.00
Archery Licences	709	3.00	2,127.00
Guides Licences (Class A)	425	50.00	21,250.00
Guides Licences (Class B)	616	25.00	15,400.00
Game Bird Farm Licences (Class A)	19	25.00	475.00
Game Bird Farm Licences (Class B)	32	10.00	320.00
Game Bird Farm Licences (Class C)	9	5.00	45.00
Resident Trappers Licences	5,811	3.00	17,433.00
Outfitters Licences	33	100.00	3,300.00
Taxidermist Licences	107	5.00	535.00
Dog Trainers Licences Resident	1	5.00	5.00
Dog Trainer Licences Non-Resident	10	25.00	250.00
Assistant Dog Trainers Licences Non-Resident	17	5.00	85.00
Game Farm Licences (Big Game)	6	100.00	600.00
Collection Permits	48	Free	----
Collection Permits	8		4,775.00
Photographic Big Game Farm Licences	3	100.00	300.00
Resource Development (Angling)	211,591	1.00	211,591.00
Resident & Non-Resident Canadian Angling	206,331	3.00	618,993.00
Seasonal Non-Resident Non-Canadian Angling	1,502	10.00	15,020.00
Limited Non-Resident Non-Canadian Angling	3,758	3.00	11,274.00
Zone Commercial Licences	373	50.00	18,650.00
Zone Fisherman's Licences	1,290	15.00	6,450.00
Domestic Indian/Metis Licences	158	Free	----
Zone Recreational Licences	102	5.00	510.00
Spear Fishing Licences	519	3.00	1,557.00
Sturgeon Fishing Licences	63	5.00	315.00
Trophy Lake Fishing Licences	1,219	5.00	6,095.00
Fish Marketing Licences (Class A)	1	100.00	100.00
Fish Marketing Licences (Class D)	7	10.00	70.00
Fish Marketing Licences (Class C)	1	----	----
Commercial Game Fish Licences - Initial	16	50.00	800.00
Commercial Game Fish Licences - Renewal	18	15.00	270.00
Private Game Fish Farm Licences - Initial	699	10.00	6,990.00
Private Game Fish Farm Licences - Renewal	409	5.00	2,045.00
Restricted Game Fish Farm Licences	9	5.00	45.00
Bait Fishing Licences	7	25.00	175.00

TABLE 4

FUR DEALERS LICENCES, ETC. 1974-75

Kind	Number	Fee	Amount
Resident Fur Dealer Licences	113	\$ 10.00	\$ 1,130.00
Non-Resident Fur Dealers Licences	2	100.00	200.00
Resident Travelling Fur Purchasing Agent Licences	34	100.00	3,400.00
Furriers Licences	9	10.00	90.00
Tanners Licences	6	10.00	60.00

TABLE 5

COMPARISON FIGURES OF THE SALE OF FURS, FUR TAX REVENUES, AND FUR PRODUCTION

	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74	1974-75
Sale of Furs				
Amount realized from the sale of confiscated furs & problem wildlife	\$ 881.25	\$ 3,848.22	\$ 11,563.77	\$ 7,566.17
Number of Registered Traplines	2,005	1,980	1,982	1,931
Number of New Trapline Certificates Issued @ \$10	----	----	----	461
Number of Trapline Renewals @ \$10	----	----	----	2,155
Total Number of Registered Trappers	2,554	2,563	2,645	2,616
Fur Tax Revenues				
Amount Collected	\$ 90,998.21	\$ 108,756.32	\$ 77,145.04	\$ 74,738.88
Fur Production				
Number of Pelts	567,033	620,357	413,355	696,911
Value of Pelts	\$ 2,765,084.63	\$ 5,746,485.91	\$ 4,310,328.22	\$ 2,828,363.94

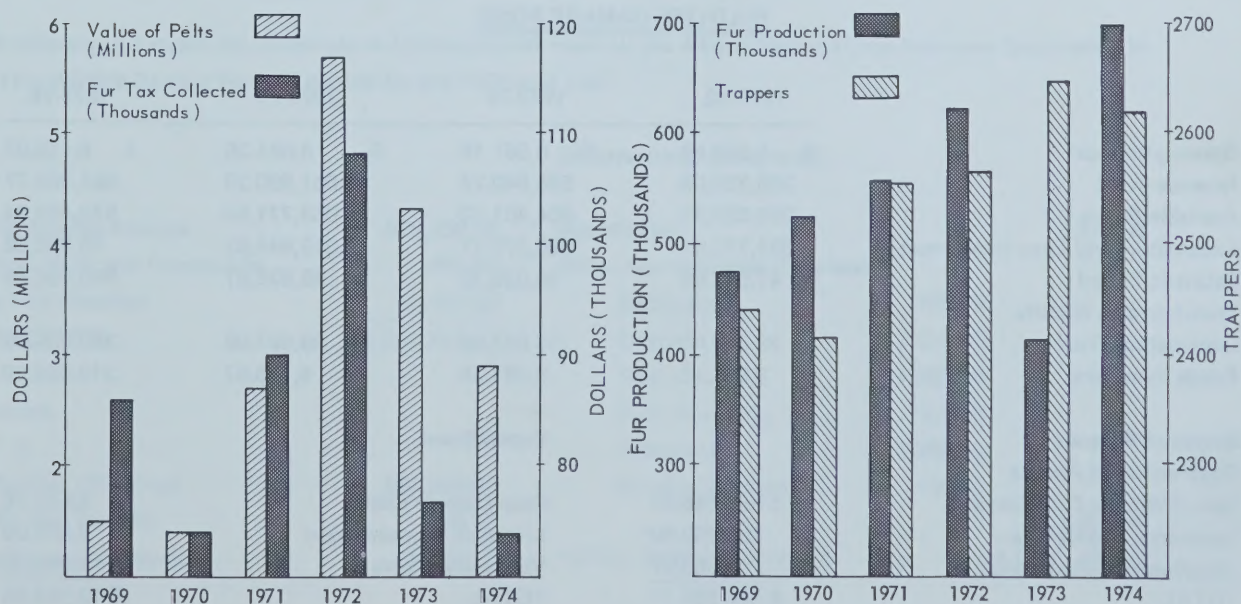


TABLE 6

**ALBERTA FUR PRODUCTION SEASON 1974-75
(WILD FUR)**

	Total Number of Pelts	Average Value of Pelts	Total Value of Pelts
Badger	1,869	\$ 13.37	\$ 24,988.53
Bear	459	31.00	14,229.00
Beaver	41,842	13.60	569,051.20
Bobcat	19	65.00	1,235.00
Coyotes	19,614	30.65	601,169.01
Ermine	34,212	1.22	41,738.64
Fisher	2,712	39.76	107,829.12
Fox, Blue	----	----	----
Fox, Cross	163	52.64	8,580.32
Fox, Red	996	33.25	33,117.00
Fox, Silver	22	28.57	628.54
Fox, White	90	20.42	1,837.80
Lynx	3,445	102.84	354,283.80
Marten	1,738	12.52	21,759.76
Mink	5,801	12.65	73,382.65
Muskrat	333,770	2.22	740,969.04
Otter	157	42.74	6,710.18
Rabbits, Jack	5,075	.55	2,791.25
Raccoon	120	N/A	N/A
Skunk	14	1.50	21.00
Squirrel	244,171	.78	190,453.38
Wolf, Timber	564	49.75	28,059.00
Wolverine	58	95.34	5,529.72

TABLE 7

WILDLIFE DAMAGE FUND

	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74	1974-75
Opening Balance	\$ 1,294.48	\$ 8,561.16	\$ 8,081.36	\$ 6,175.07
Revenue Total	398,338.02	595,840.27	1,051,690.23	564,268.77
Available Funds	399,632.50	604,401.43	1,059,771.59	570,443.84
Expenditure and Loan Repayment	351,710.44	550,372.11	1,013,944.62	10,393.65
Balance of Fund	47,922.06	54,029.32	45,826.97	560,050.19
Transferred to Wildlife				
Depredation Trust	39,360.90	45,947.96	39,651.90	350,000.00
Funds Remaining	8,561.16	8,081.36	6,175.07	210,050.19
Source of Revenue		Expenditures		
Government of Alberta				
Sale of Wildlife Certificates	\$ 365,646.00	Crop Damage Claims		\$ 6,528.75
Government of Canada	198,259.50	Livestock Compensation		2,802.00
Miscellaneous and Interest	363.27	Veterinary Claims		1,062.90
TOTAL	\$ 564,268.77	TOTAL		\$ 10,393.65

TABLE 8

COMPARISON OF CROP DAMAGE CLAIMS

LIVESTOCK COMPENSATION & VETERINARY CLAIMS

	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74	1974-75
Crop Damage Claims				
Claims	906	997	1,387	1,621
Acreage Damage	52,441	74,560	98,837	86,387
Settlement & Costs	\$ 315,559.62	\$ 516,101.38	\$ 977,145.00	\$ 957,449.34
Livestock Compensation				
Claims	43	38	38	10
Cost	\$ 8,703.12	\$ 9,710.25	\$ 10,874.52	\$ 2,802.00
Veterinary Claims				
Claims	28	21	40	45
Cost	\$ 603.30	\$ 538.80	\$ 925.10	\$ 1,062.90

TABLE 9

ALBERTA HAIL AND CROP INSURANCE CORPORATION
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS COVERING 1974 CLAIMS

The following is a statement of receipts and disbursements made by the Alberta Hail and Crop Insurance Corporation in respect of the Wildlife Damage Fund of Alberta for the 1974 crop year:

Receipts		Disbursements (continued)	
Province of Alberta Advance	\$ 970,238.30	Agent's Fees	3,570.00
Interest from Bank and Investments	869.09	Other Administrative Expenses:	
Appraisal Fees Received	40,350.02	Stationery	\$ 756.79
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$ 1,011,457.41	Salaries	7,500.00
		Rent	1,350.00
Disbursements		Data Processing	500.00
Awards Paid for 1974 Crop	\$ 957,243.09	Telephone	1,200.00
1970 Claim Paid in 1974	206.25	Board of Directors	400.00
Adjusters Wages and Expenses	38,731.28		\$ 11,706.79
		TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$ 1,011,457.41

TABLE 10

WILDLIFE DEPREDAATION (LURE CROP PROGRAM)

TRUST ACCOUNT (6243A)

	April 1/71 March 31/72	April 1/72 March 31/73	April 1/73 March 31/74	April 1/74 March 31/75
Opening Balance	\$ 33,660.98	\$ 32,682.02	\$ 48,147.69	\$ 48,496.64
Receipts				
County of Grande Prairie	5,184.00	----	----	----
Ducks Unlimited	4,000.00	4,000.00	----	----
Government of Canada	4,000.00	13,447.14	----	----
Wildlife Damage Fund	39,360.90	45,947.96	39,651.90	350,000.00
Interest & Miscellaneous	408.00	1,192.99	919.53	13,285.99
	86,613.88	97,270.11	88,719.12	411,782.63
Expenditure	53,931.86	49,122.42	40,222.48	328,066.95
Closing Balance	\$ 32,682.02	\$ 48,147.69	\$ 48,496.64	\$ 83,715.68

TABLE 11

TOTAL DIVISIONAL REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES

	Fish Licences		Game Licences		Miscellaneous Revenue	Total Revenue	Total Expenditure
	Number Sold	Revenue	Number Sold	Revenue			
1965/66	127,194	\$ 246,739.95	189,320	\$ 685,188.68	\$ 103,392.52	\$ 1,035,321.15	\$ 1,117,719.07**
66/67	137,687	265,139.50	190,824	733,964.25	92,030.68	1,091,134.43	1,330,052.83**
67/68	141,676	273,456.60	218,865	1,042,831.40	99,781.37	1,416,069.37	1,556,926.07**
68/69	143,062	433,982.90	241,879	1,164,015.41	109,576.00	1,707,574.31	1,646,200.51**
69/70	155,444	464,622.30	245,804	1,122,907.97	92,813.10	1,680,343.37	1,889,176.34**
70/71	151,205	457,379.60	246,030	1,288,816.40	111,640.14*	1,857,836.14	2,000,895.56**
71/72	162,480	488,041.80	253,773	1,360,857.18	97,270.05*	1,946,169.03	2,379,489.93**
72/73	178,222	526,769.70	239,062	1,419,902.82	130,626.77*	2,077,299.29	2,426,889.23**
73/74	188,033	720,259.70	373,413	1,577,498.92	106,253.14*	2,404,011.76	4,259,889.74**
74/75	216,563	780,666.70	294,543	1,237,149.62	105,137.21*	2,122,953.53	6,015,561.31**

* See Miscellaneous Revenue Table 12

** 1965/66 - 1974/75 includes Cost Sharing Programs

TABLE 12

MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE

	Fisheries Miscellaneous	Fisheries Royalty	Fur Tax	Other Miscellaneous	Total
1965/66	\$ 888.10	\$ 14,165.32	\$ 85,208.64	\$ 3,130.46	\$ 103,392.52
66/67	409.92	14,232.36	72,730.28	3,658.12	92,030.68
67/68	224.78	14,439.74	78,798.35	6,318.50	99,781.37
68/69	1,700.68	13,698.29	90,264.30	3,912.73	109,576.00
69/70	810.97	12,533.15	76,872.32	2,596.66	92,813.10
70/71	533.21	22,352.79	86,350.53	2,403.61	111,640.14
71/72	1,049.48	12,194.18	79,549.08	4,477.31	97,270.05
72/73	878.52	15,095.62	109,080.89	5,571.74	130,626.77
73/74	889.32	13,350.35	77,145.04	14,868.43	106,253.14
74/75	1,006.91	14,712.07	74,733.88	14,684.35	105,137.21

WILDLIFE

In 1974, the scope of Wildlife Branch activities was increased with the addition of several highly qualified staff members who initiated studies in: Habitat protection; examining alternative methods to raising wildlife on a reduced and changed land base; establishing an Alberta Land Inventory for furbearers. Additionally, a regional biologist was established in Edmonton to be responsible for wildlife management in the area adjacent to the city.

An overall decrease in licences sold and, therefore, hunters in the field was recorded for the majority of big game species this year. Reasons for the decline were determined as due to poor fall hunting conditions (with mild weather and little snow), and the change to a limit of two big game tags from a previous limit of three. The resulting reduction in hunter pressure benefited populations that suffered from the severity of 1973-74 winter.

A big game hunter survey was conducted for the first time on a computerized basis. A total of 30,000 elk, moose and deer hunters throughout the province received questionnaires. Replies were evaluated on the basis of harvest location, hunter success and number of recreation days provided by the wildlife resource.

In the area of problem wildlife, a policy manual was prepared for field staff, establishing guidelines and responsibilities on a species by species basis.

A four year study on the Alberta grizzly was initiated with an historical overview of grizzly populations in the province.

Research on breeding or raising peregrine falcons in captivity for future wild release continued.

A list of other major research and management projects carried out in 1974-75 follows:

RESEARCH AND MANAGEMENT PROJECTS

1. General
 - (a) Sheep River fertilization study.
 - (b) Evaluation of winter range fertilization.
 - (c) Time spent grazing and browsing by cattle in Camp Wainwright.
2. Bear
 - (a) Dynamics of unexploited black bear population.
3. Bighorn Sheep
 - (a) Ram Mountain bighorn study.
 - (b) Bighorn - forage relationship on Ram Mountain.
 - (c) Movements and migration of sheep on Red Cap Range.
4. Deer
 - (a) Camp Wainwright deer study.
 - (b) Effects of manipulating hunting seasons on Pine Lake deer population.
 - (c) Population response of a hunted white-tailed deer herd to a regime of no hunting.
 - (d) White-tailed deer ecology.
5. Elk
 - (a) Seasonal distribution and population dynamics of the Oldman River elk herd.
 - (b) Status of elk in Alberta.
 - (c) Evaluation of census techniques for elk populations.
 - (d) Evaluation of elk winter ranges in Calgary region.
 - (e) Study of winter elk distribution in relation to a limited hunting season.
 - (f) Deer Creek elk transplant.

6. Geese
 - (a) Canada goose transplants.
 - (b) Goose nesting platform study.
 - (c) Dowling Lake goose studies.
7. Goats
 - (a) Goat study on Hammel-Syncline Mountain.
 - (b) Assessment of mountain goat reproduction and survival of young until one year.
 - (c) Assessment of the potential for transplanting goats.
8. Moose
 - (a) Movement and distribution of moose relative to hunting pressures and range quality.
 - (b) Effects of hunting on an Alberta moose population.
9. Problem Wildlife
 - (a) Studies on wildlife rabies disease.
 - (b) Evaluation of the wolf-livestock conflict.
 - (c) Evaluation of beaver flood-abatement culverts.
 - (d) Analysis of black bear depredation on bee hives.
 - (e) Deer baiting, harassment and habitat improvement to alleviate depredation on haystacks.
 - (f) Examination of elk depredation on crops in Calgary region.
10. Pronghorn Antelope
 - (a) Migration patterns.
 - (b) Parasites.
 - (c) Doe-kid behavior and habitat selection.
 - (d) Habitat selection and forage utilization.
 - (e) Chemical composition of silver sage on winter ranges.
 - (f) Baseline blood physiology values and serology survey.
11. Upland Birds
 - (a) Evaluation of spring releases of wild and hatchery hen pheasants.
 - (b) Assessment of introduction of Merriam's turkey to Porcupine Hills.

WILDLIFE HABITAT PROTECTION AND DEVELOPMENT

Protection

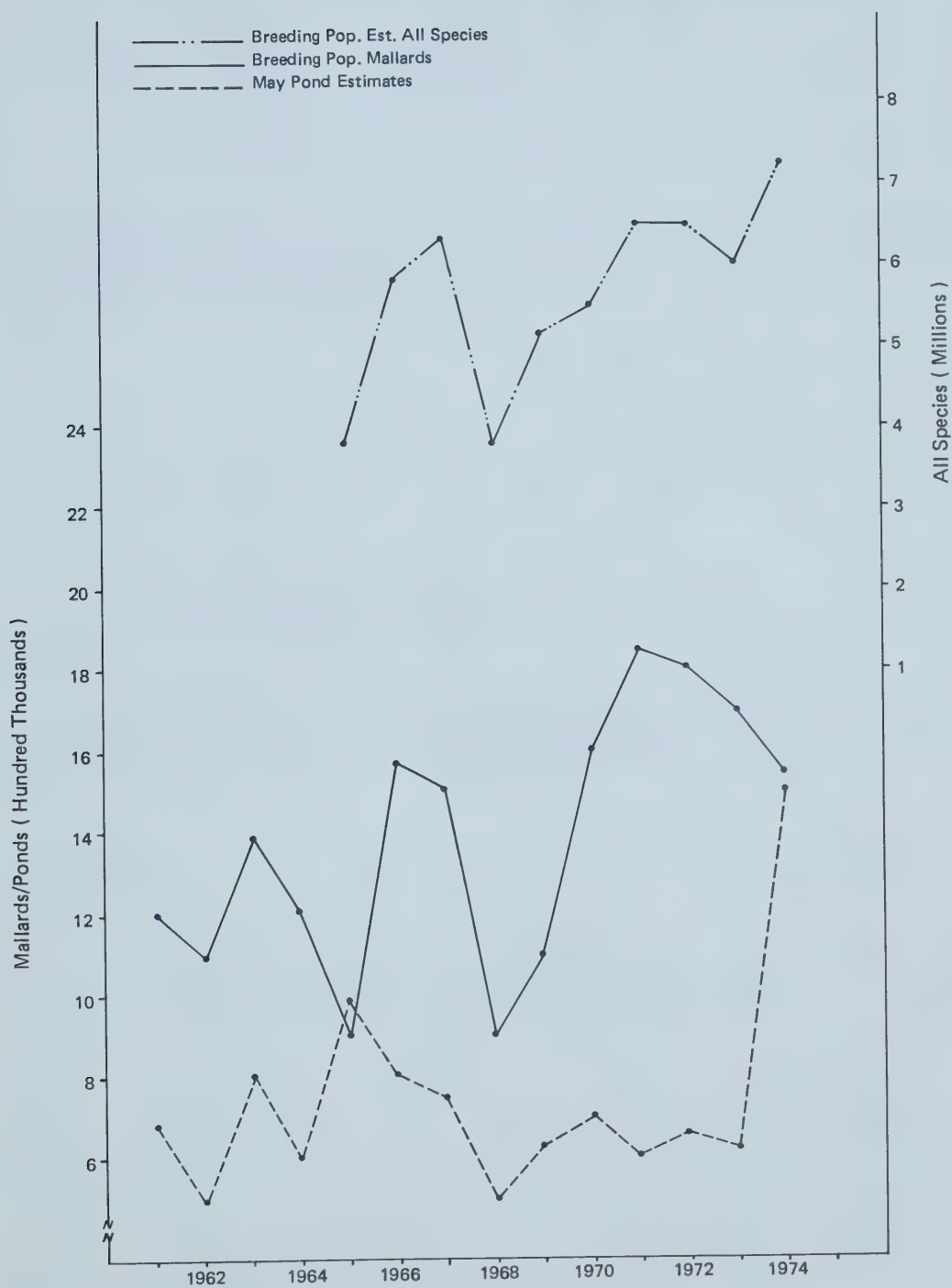
Major efforts of the Wildlife Habitat Section continued to be in the area of habitat protection. Involvement through committees and referral systems were with mineral extraction, domestic grazing, water manipulations, timber harvesting and others. A review of Fish and Wildlife reservations was completed. Updating of critical areas maps for ungulates and waterfowl is nearing completion, as is the study on domestic grazing - wildlife conflicts. Reports were completed for the Red Deer flow regulation project and the Cooking Lake moraine study.

Development

The surcharge levied through the Resource Development Stamp on all wildlife certificates enabled hunters to contribute to the following habitat development projects under the "Buck for Wildlife" programs:

1. Millicent - 18 miles of shelterbelt planted for pheasants; irrigation system developed.
2. Beaverhill Lake - 1,120 acres at the southeast end of the lake purchased through the Land Assembly Program to improve waterfowl, upland bird and deer habitat; portions of the property were fenced and leased to farmers displaced by the Lake "A" impoundment.
3. Buffalo Lake - additional 6 miles of shelterbelts were planted; cover crop planted; 12 potholes were blasted; fencing partially completed.
4. Spring Creek - baseline information gathered on wildlife and livestock use of the area; 300 acres cleared; aerial photo coverage completed.
5. Bigelow Reservoir - shelterbelts and block cover plantings for waterfowl and upland bird nesting; construction of nesting islands for waterfowl.
6. Moose Creek - seed test plots developed; trees and shrubs planted to re-establish wildlife habitat on logged-over areas.
7. Chin project - 3.5 miles of shelterbelt planted for upland birds.
8. Heninger Reservoir - 9 miles of shelterbelts planted for upland birds.
9. Chip Lake - development of a habitat management plan for the lake was initiated.
10. Shiningbank moose range - some willow stands cleared to improve ungulate winter range; negotiations for clearing aspen were initiated.
11. Stirling Lake - waterfowl nesting islands constructed.
12. Cygnet Lake - stabilization of lake level to encourage waterfowl production.
13. S.H.A.R.P. (Save Habitat and Restore Pheasants) - designation and acquisition of key pheasant habitat areas; agreements made with landowners to preserve and develop habitat; some shelterbelt preparation accomplished.
14. Native grass seed production - developing sources of native grass seed required for use in ungulate range improvement and reclamation work.

Fig. 1 — ALBERTA WATERFOWL BREEDING POPULATION



Long term trend of duck breeding population estimates and May pond estimates, from U.S.F. & W.S. Aerial Surveys in Alberta Strata 26,27,28 & 29.

Fig. 2 — ALBERTA WATERFOWL HARVEST & LICENCE SALES

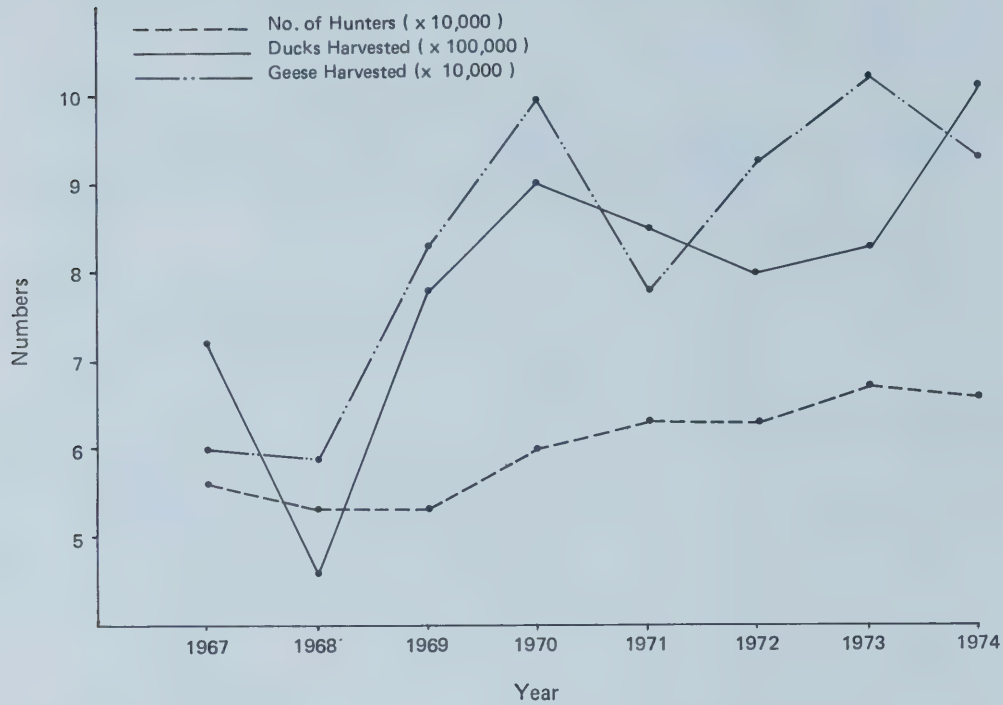


Fig. 3 — WILDLIFE DAMAGE TO ALBERTA CROPS

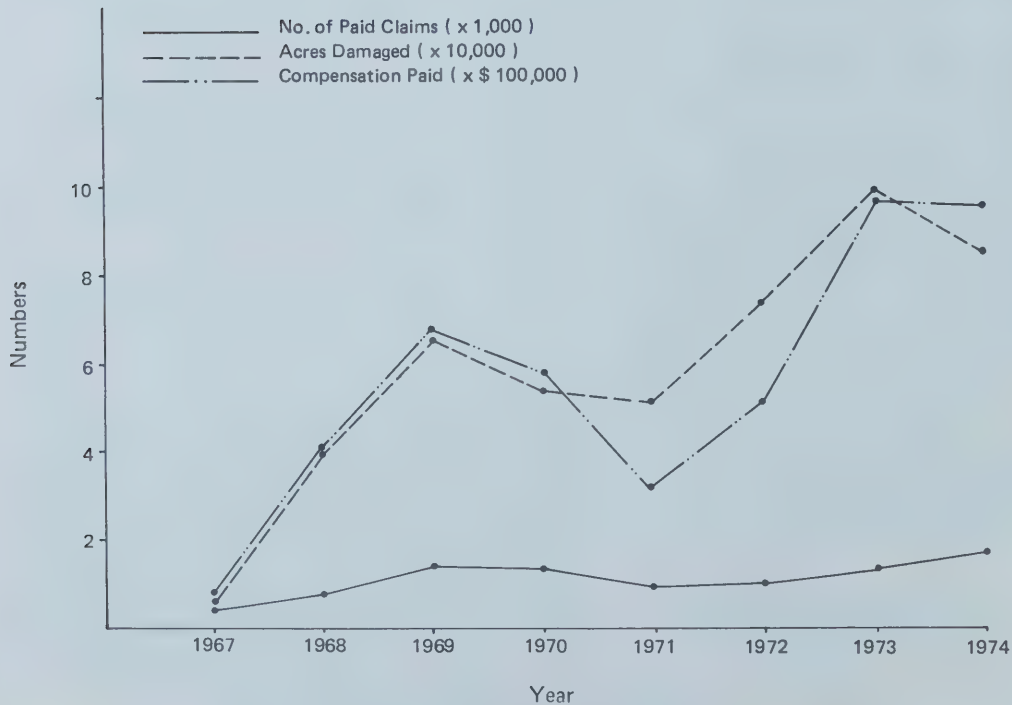


TABLE 1

AIRCRAFT HOURS FLOWN BY WILDLIFE SERVICES SECTION

Fiscal Year	Hours Expended		
	Total	Rotary Wing	Fixed Wing
1971-72	301.9	164.2	137.7
1972-73	332.6	180.5	152.1
1973-74	379.5	232.2	147.3
1974-75	390.7	207.6	183.1

The above table represents the number of aircraft hours expended by the inventory team for wildlife surveys since the inception of the Wildlife Services Section in 1971. These hours are exclusive of those flown for habitat, regional and Alberta Land Inventory projects in which Wildlife Services does not participate.

PERMIT AND HARVEST DATA FOR SPECIAL LICENCES

Camp Wainwright Deer

A primitive weapons season allowing muzzle loaders was introduced at Camp Wainwright in 1974. Thirty-four muzzle loaders were successful in harvesting five mule deer and two white-tailed deer. Bow and arrow hunters (20) recorded zero success for the third consecutive year.

TABLE 2

CAMP WAINWRIGHT DEER
PERMIT AND HARVEST DATA FOR RIFLE HUNTERS 1970-1974

Year	Total Permits	Active Hunters	White-tails			Total	Mule Deer	All Deer	Percent Success
			Bucks	Does	Fawns		Bucks		
1970	420	346	45	26	34	105	5	110	32
1971	427	338	49	29	42	120	10	130	38
1972	494	392	46	34	24	104	12	116	30
1973	519	465	31	26	28	85	12	97	21
1974	547	459	53	32	32	117	10	127	28

Hunter expenditures at Camp Wainwright for the 1973 deer season were determined at \$23.00 per hunter day.

TABLE 3

NON-TROPHY SHEEP: PERMIT AND HARVEST DATA 1969-1974

Year	Total Permits	Active Hunters	Total Harvest	Percent Success for Active Hunters
1969	374	300	138	46
1970	312	250	90	36
1971	309	249	100	40
1972	329	250	100	40
1973	300	258	105	41
1974	280	225	69	31

TABLE 4

YA-HA TINDA (W.M.U. S416 AND S418) ELK: PERMIT AND HARVEST DATA 1968-1974

Fiscal Year	Length of Season	Total Permits	Active Hunters	Total Harvest	Percent Success for Active Hunters
1968-69	6 weeks	300	249	78	31
1969-70	6 weeks	420	357	108	30
1970-71	6 weeks	419	327	112	34
1971-72	Special Season Closed				
1972-73	4 weeks	281	252	135	54
1973-74	4 weeks	288	243	132	54
1974-75	4 weeks	282	257	108	42

TABLE 5

ANTELOPE: PERMIT AND HARVEST DATA 1970-1974

Year	Total Permits	Active Hunters	Total Harvest	Percent Success for Active Hunters
1970	800	730	481	66
1971	1,001	930	628	68
1972	1,103	1,004	665	66
1973	1,083	1,010	771	76
1974	1,128	991	699	71

TABLE 6

BIG GAME INFORMATION 1974-75

Big Game Species	Estimated Population	Permits Sold		Harvest		Hunter Success (%)			Harvest Estimated By:
		Res.	Non - Res.	Res.	Non - Res.	Res.	Non - Res.	Overall	
Antelope	11,000	1,125	3		699		70.5 ¹	70.5	Voluntary Registration
Bighorn Sheep									
(a) Trophy	4,500	935	87	92	35	9.8	40.2	12.4	Compulsory Registration
(b) Non-Trophy		280	N/E	69	N/E	24.6	N/E	24.6	Voluntary Registration
Black Bear		4,483	384	—	—	—	—	—	
Caribou	4,000 - 5,000	238	26	11	10	4.6	38.5	8.0	Compulsory Registration
Cougar	1,000 - 1,500	70	0	5	0	37.1	100	43.6	Compulsory Registration
Fall 1974			8	26	8				
Spring 1975				21					
Deer									
(a) Whitetail		28,219	44	4,356	—	21.0 ¹	—	—	Questionnaire
(b) Mule	150,000	23,494	150	3,594	—	21.3 ¹	—	—	Questionnaire
(c) Camp Wainwright		547	N/E	134	N/E	24.5	N/E	24.5	Voluntary Registration
Elk									
(a) Regular		14,950	257	1,336	—	11.2 ¹	—	—	Questionnaire
(b) Ya Ha Tinda	20,000	282	N/E	108	N/E	38.3	N/E	38.3	Voluntary Registration
(c) Antlerless Elk Auth.		543	N/E	105	N/E	19.3	N/E	19.3	Compulsory Registration
Grizzly Bear - Spring 1975	1,000 - 1,500	263	74	11	0	4.2	0	3.3	Compulsory Registration
Moose									
(a) Regular	250,000	34,728	277	5,451	—	19.9 ¹	—	—	Questionnaire
(b) Zone 1		5,354	1,601	1,324	450 ²	22.5 ¹	28.1	25.5	Questionnaire
Mountain Goat	1,000	53	N/E	13	N/E	33.3 ¹	N/E	33.3	Compulsory Registration

Wildlife Certificate Sales for 1974-75 = 121,409

1 = percent success based on active hunters

2 = from export permit figures

— = information not available

N/E = non-residents not eligible

TABLE 7

BIG GAME HARVEST INFORMATION

COMPARISON 1969-1974

Species	1969			1970			1971			1972			1973			1974		
	Res.	Non-Res.	Est. Pop.	Res.	Non-Res.	Est. Pop.	Res.	Non-Res.	Est. Pop.	Res.	Non-Res.	Est. Pop.	Res.	Non-Res.	Est. Pop.	Res.	Non-Res.	Est. Pop.
Antelope	Season Closed		8,500	481	N/E	11,000	628	N/E	10,000	665	N/E	10,500	771	N/E	10,500	699		11,000
Bighorn Sheep																		
(a) Trophy	56	58		58	50		56	43	4,000	73	42	4,000	91	35	4,500	92	35	4,500
(b) Non-Trophy	138	N/E		90	N/E		100	N/E		100	N/E		105	N/E		69	N/E	
Caribou		N/A			N/A		23	3		30	16		19	5	4,000-5,000	11	10	4,000-5,000
Cougar		N/A			N/A			13		7	4		21	3	1,000-1,500	26	8	1,000-1,500
Deer	22,341	79		21,000			23,500			26,000			11,370*			8,200*		150,000
Elk	3,623	211		N/A			N/A			2,156*	19,000		2,014*	20,000		1,600*		20,000
Grizzly Bear	31			N/A			4			14	1		16	1	1,000-1,500	11	0	1,000-1,500
Moose	17,713	2,448		N/A			N/A			N/A			N/A			6,775*	520	250,000
Mountain Goat	22	32	4,000	Season Closed			Season Closed			22	N/E		14	N/E	1,000	13	N/E	1,000

N/E = non-residents not eligible to hunt

N/A = information not available

* = from hunter survey questionnaire

FISHERIES

There was a continuation of the increasing demand for recreational fishing and private game fish farming during 1974. Commercial fishing also showed an increase in both activity and production as did commercial game fish farming. The Habitat-Land Use section significantly increased its role in habitat protection and development through the acquisition of more professional and technical staff. The Sam Livingstone Fish Hatchery and Rearing Station completed its first full year of operation, producing almost six million fish.

THE RECREATIONAL FISHERY

Licence Sales

A comparison of annual angling licence sales gives a crude measure of the demand for recreational fishing. Figure 1 shows a comparison of total resident and non-resident licence sales for the period from 1970 to 1974. An increase of 26,846 licences (or 14.5%) occurred in 1974 over 1973.

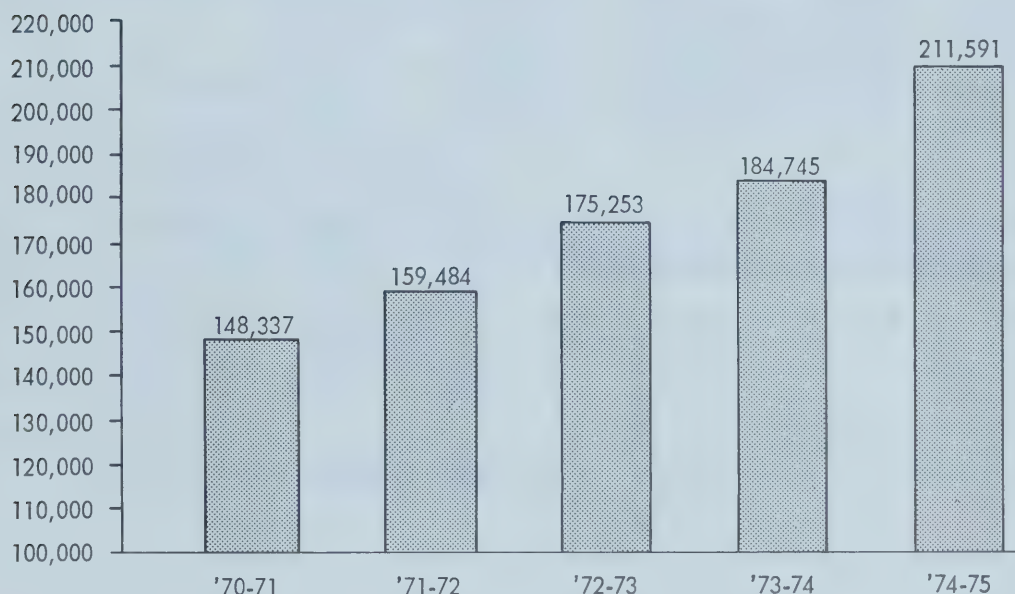


Figure 1 - TOTAL OF RESIDENT AND NON-RESIDENT ANGLING LICENCE SALES FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS.

FISH CULTURE AND STOCKING PROGRAM

The new Sam Livingstone Fish Hatchery and Rearing Station in Calgary completed its first full year of operation in 1974 with a total of 5,939,389 fish being produced for the Division's Stocking program (Table 1). An additional 1,500,000 eyed-walleye eggs and 200,000 walleye fry were imported from outside Alberta and planted at various locations throughout the province.

TABLE 1

SPECIES COMPOSITION AND NUMBERS OF FISH STOCKED IN 1974

Species	Number	Percent
Brown Trout	72,100	0.9
Cutthroat Trout	26,700	0.4
Lake Trout	91,000	1.2
Rainbow Trout	5,749,589	75.3
Walleye	200,000	2.6
Walleye (eyed eggs)	1,500,000	19.6
TOTAL	7,639,389	100.0

The hatchery production for 1974 showed a significant increase over 1972 and 1973 (Table 2). This was due to the fact that the new hatchery did not commence operation until March of 1972, and this timing was too late to obtain fish eggs and establish a full level of production for these two years. Table 3 shows the regional distribution of the stocked fish and the numbers of lakes in each region that were stocked. A total of 187 lakes were stocked in the province in 1974.

TABLE 2

TOTAL HATCHERY PRODUCTION OF FISH FOR THE PAST FIVE YEARS

1970	4,149,386
1971	4,739,217
1972	3,945,279
1973	2,773,640
1974	5,939,389

TABLE 3

REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF STOCKED FISH - 1974

Region	Number of Fish	Number of Lakes
Region 1 - Lethbridge	2,865,840	35
Region 2 - Calgary	1,676,465	37
Region 3 - Red Deer	1,018,552	62
Region 4 - Edson	436,824	19

Region	Number of Fish	Number of Lakes
--------	----------------	-----------------

Region 5 - St. Paul	561,825	9
Region 6 - Peace River	796,770	13
Region 7 - Edmonton	283,113	12

THE COMMERCIAL FISHERY

A total of 101 lakes were available for commercial fishing in 1974, a decrease of 6 from the previous year. These 6 lakes were reserved for fishing on a request basis only, as they have difficult access and contain fish of low commercial value. Table 4 shows the dollar value of the total commercial fish catch to the fishermen and as a market product between the years 1970 and 1974. The total 1974 catch was 5,239,163 lbs.

TABLE 4

VALUE OF THE COMMERCIAL FISH PRODUCTION IN ALBERTA

	Weight	Value to Fishermen	Value as Marketed
1970-71	6,895,597	\$ 826,268.91	\$ 1,587,718.45
1971-72	5,347,247	729,931.28	1,411,450.98
1972-73	4,858,281	727,082.70	1,476,091.09
1973-74	4,610,743	801,722.77	1,433,573.68
1974-75	5,239,163	934,457.37	1,753,619.64

Table 5 shows a comparison of the total annual catch for the years 1970-74.

TABLE 5

COMMERCIAL PRODUCTION OF FISH IN ALBERTA (ROUND WEIGHT)

Species	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74	1974-75
Whitefish	2,339,934	2,183,384	2,208,021	2,178,142	2,382,417
Trout (Lake)	3,718	4,318	4,765	7,645	3,557
Walleye (Pickerel)	136,124	171,899	148,008	90,284	87,544
Perch	279,488	136,945	39,674	16,547	17,530
Pike	760,653	673,630	611,836	469,282	461,678
Tullibee	2,902,960	1,451,707	1,373,770	1,467,810	1,992,445
Ling	214,795	416,531	187,651	231,638	159,642
Suckers	257,465	308,203	283,983	149,395	134,050
Goldeye	420	630	563	----	----
TOTAL	6,895,597	5,347,247	4,858,281	4,610,743	5,239,163

Figure 2 shows a comparison of total zone commercial and zone fishermen licence sales for the years 1970-74.

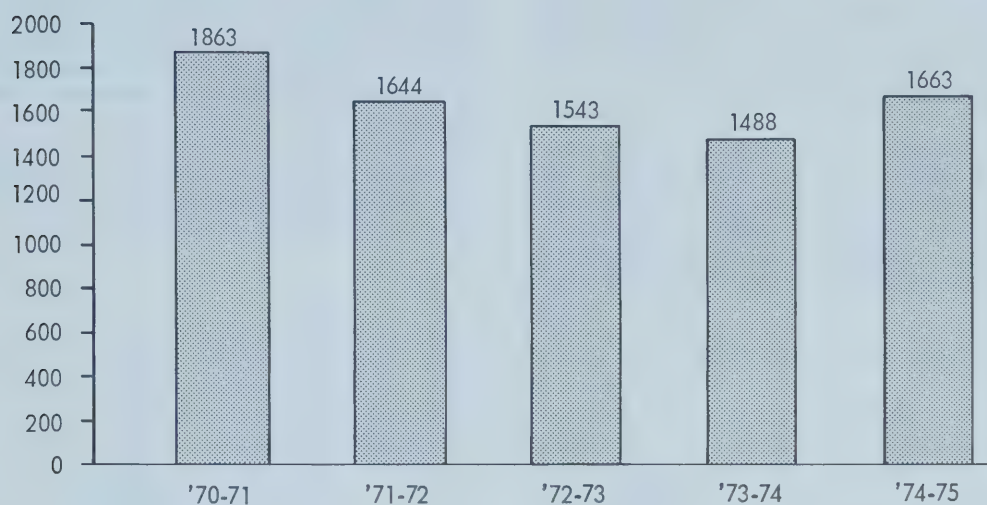


Figure 2 - TOTAL OF ZONE COMMERCIAL AND ZONE FISHERMEN LICENCE SALES FOR THE LAST FIVE FISCAL YEARS.

Figure 3 shows a comparison of total commercial fish production in Alberta for the past 20 years.

AQUACULTURE

The number of game fish farm licences sold in 1974-75 increased 61% to 1,151 from 717 sold in 1973-74. Of the total number of private licences, 409 were renewals and 699 were initial licences. The renewal rate from the previous year's private licence total was 60%. This represents a turnover of 40% in 1974-75 compared with 36% the previous year.

Of the 34 commercial licences sold, 15 were initial licences and 18 were renewals from the year before. The total number of commercial licences increased 42% from 1973-74. Nine restricted licences were sold in 1974-75. Figure 4 shows a comparison of private and commercial game fish farm licence sales for the years 1970-74.

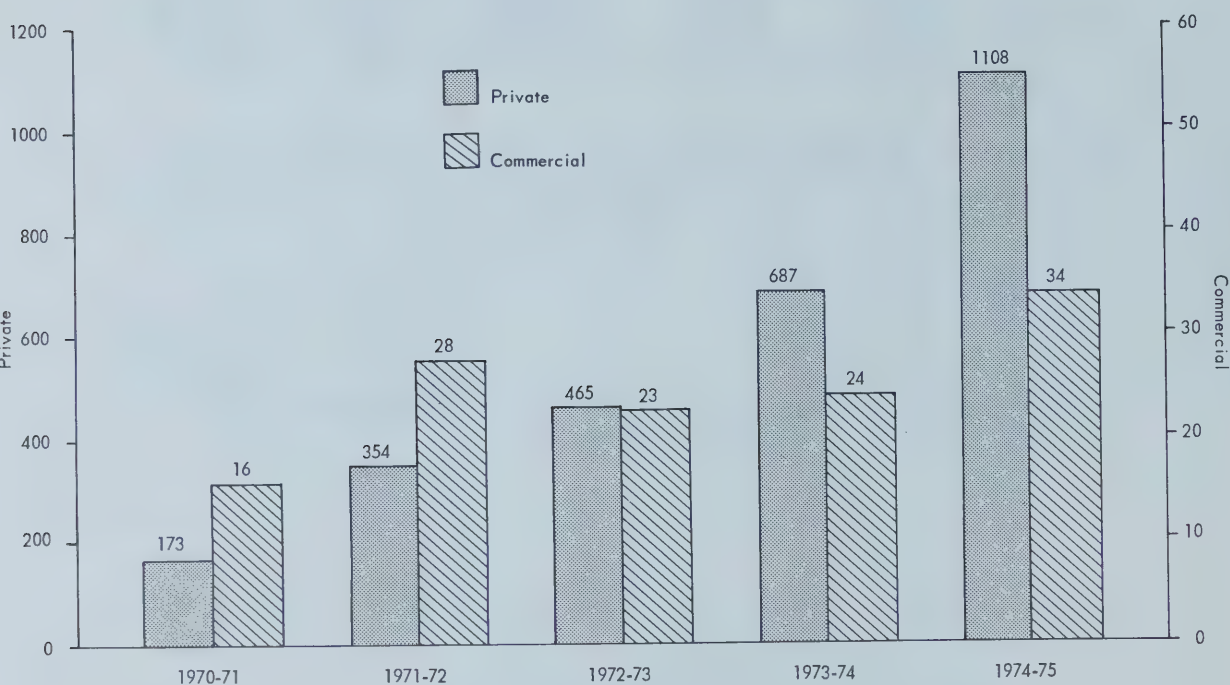


Figure 4 - GAME FISH FARM LICENCE SALES.

FISHERIES RESEARCH

The Fisheries Research Section continued in their attempts to develop a homing, self-sustaining, wild rainbow trout population in Chain Lakes Reservoir. A sucker removal program, designed to reduce competition between suckers and rainbow trout in Chain Lakes, was also continued in 1974.

Creel censuses were conducted throughout the spring and summer on Mami (Payne) Lake near Cardston, and Louisiana No. 13 Reservoir near Brooks. The purpose of

According to import permits issued, 878,500 rainbow trout were imported into Alberta by commercial game fish farmers. Based on their submitted reports, 457,000 fish were sold to private game fish farmers and 24,000 were utilized for recreational use (i.e. angling). In addition, an estimated 31,000 fish were lost from other causes and only 11,000 were sold directly as food. These figures are a close approximation since semi-annual report submission was not complete.

In early 1975, a biologist was acquired to administer game fish farming activities in the province and to develop an information base for an expanded extension service.

these surveys was to document the use of the pothole fisheries, the returns from the stocking efforts, and, from angler interviews, the type of fisheries requested by the angling public. Three potholes under study for developing a rainbow trout stocking formula, Mami, Beauvais and Beaver Mines Lake, were again biologically sampled in August. Incubation experiments on lake whitefish eggs were continued in the laboratory to determine the effects of saline waters on the survival of eggs throughout the four month egg incubation period.

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

All regions are continuing in the program of resource inventory and evaluation with several new habitat development projects under way. An assessment of the current fisheries management policy for east slope streams is continuing with special emphasis being placed on the Livingstone-Oldman Drainage. The commercial fishery monitoring program in which catch quotas are established on the basis of population age structure appears to be stabilizing commercial fish production.

AQUATIC HABITAT - LAND USE

The habitat protection group is heavily involved in interdepartmental referral systems and committees dealing with all aspects of surface disturbance. Examples of this involvement include reviewing applications for coal exploration, coal developments, tar sands extraction, road crossing of streams, pipeline locations, water diversion, construction of bridges and culverts, sand and gravel extraction, subdivisions, and Environmental Impact Assessments. In addition, the group has endeavoured to make other agencies aware of the sensitivity of aquatic environments to disturbance, and the need to develop measures to minimize these pressures.

During 1974 a total of \$211,591.00 was generated for the fisheries portion of the "Buck for Wildlife" program through the sale of resource development stamps. Seven new habitat development projects were approved this year making a total of 21 since the inception of the program in 1973. These projects are listed in Table 6.

TABLE 6
BUCK FOR WILDLIFE PROJECTS
(FISHERIES)

Projects Initiated	Region	Project Status
Stauffer Creek Improvement and Development - 1973	Red Deer	Completed
Little Beaverdam Lake Improvement - 1973	Lethbridge	
Heninger's Reservoir Improvement - 1973	Lethbridge	
Lehto Reservoir Improvement - 1973	Lethbridge	Completed
Turin Reservoir Development - 1973	Lethbridge	
Hartell Reservoir Improvement - 1973	Calgary	
Shuster Lake Improvement - 1973	Red Deer	
Floatingstone Creek Barrier - 1973	St. Paul	
Beaver Creek Reservoir Development - 1973	Red Deer	
Jack Bird Fish Pond	Peace River	Completed
Wainwright Town Pond Development - 1973	Red Deer	

Projects Initiated	Region	Project Status
Pierre Grey Lake Fish Barrier - 1973	Edson	Completed
McVinnie Property Reservoir Development - 1973	Lethbridge	
Mitchell Lake Improvement - 1973	Red Deer	Completed
Windsor Lake Improvement - 1974	Red Deer	
Pedley Reservoir Improvement - 1974	Edson	Completed
Westlock Borrow Pit Development - 1974	Edmonton	
Namepi Creek Tributary Reservoir Development - 1974	Edmonton	Completed
Policemen Creek Improvement - 1974	Calgary	
Carson Lake Improvement - 1974	Edson	
Outpost Lake Improvement - 1974	Lethbridge	

EXTENSION SERVICES

The Extension Services Branch was formed in November 1974, as a result of Divisional reorganization. Responsibilities of the Branch include:

1. Hunter training and other skills related training programs
2. Fish and wildlife resource education programming
3. Information and public relations services
4. Staff development and training

Branch personnel in 1974-75 numbered seven including the Branch Head, five hunter training staff and one conservation training officer. Though most Branch programs are still in the planning stage, Branch personnel did provide the following services.

Information - Education

Displays outlining Divisional programs appeared in exhibitions, fairs and sportsmens shows throughout Alberta during 67 days in 1974-75. Displays were exhibited in schools for 44 days. In addition, conservation training lectures were presented to schools and public functions throughout Alberta on 97 days.

Hunter - Training

Public demand for the Alberta Hunter Training-Conservation program continued to increase. Most significant increase was noted in the "practical" or camp portion of the course.

Successful Students

April 1, 1974 - March 31, 1975	10,556
Junior high schools offering hunter training course	192
Senior high schools offering hunter training course	56
Other organizations and institutions offering the Alberta hunter training courses:	
Alberta Fish and Game	
Armed Forces	
Lethbridge College	
Olds College	
Continuing Education (Edmonton Public School)	
University of Alberta	
Vermilion College	
Boy Scouts	
Maple Ridge	
Westfield Centre	
Chimo	
Students attending hunter training camps	4,442
Alford Creek (Caroline)	2,300
Narrow Lake	2,142
Total hunter training students graduated from 1964 up to and including March 31, 1975	45,942

Hunter Training Instructors

24 instructor qualifying courses were held in the following locations:

Acme School	Grande Cache
Barrhead	Grande Prairie
Banff	Grouard
Bonnyville	Hines Creek
Calgary	Hinton
Camrose	Leduc
Carbon School	Lethbridge
Claresholm	Medley
Drumheller	Rimby
Edmonton	Tilley
Elk Point	Vauxhall
Ft. McMurray	Vermilion
Total new instructors qualified	491

In addition to the above activities, the section held several in-service training courses:

Archery instructors course - Alford Creek	8 graduates
Firearms seminar (fish & wildlife officers)	
Narrow Lake	11 graduates
Firearms instructors course - Narrow Lake	9 graduates

separate functional unit. In addition to the organizational restructure three special service positions were created in response to changing needs and increased emphasis on service in the Problem Wildlife Field. Positions of Problem Wildlife Co-ordinator, Fur Co-ordinator, and Special Investigator are now operative.

Special emphasis was placed on increasing service in response to Problem Wildlife. Four Regional Problem Wildlife Specialists were assigned to regional operations. Specialists are now located at Edmonton, Calgary, Edson, and Peace River. It is planned to have a Problem Wildlife Specialist in each region.

Six Fish and Wildlife Officer positions were also authorized. One of the positions involved the creation of a new district at Fairview, Alberta, while the remaining five were junior positions assigned to field operations at established districts. In addition, to the six field officers, two senior Fish and Wildlife Officer positions were created, one at Lac La Biche, and the other at High Prairie. These positions should provide the division with a more efficient operation in these two important areas of the province, and provide a better service to the public.

PROBLEM WILDLIFE ACTIVITIES

Two major projects were administered by the Problem Wildlife Field Operations Section. These involved assuming responsibility for supervision of the Bear Control Program in the Peace River Region and the continuation of a general wolf depredation control project. Response to a variety of Problem Wildlife situations was required with beaver being a general source of difficulty throughout the province. Following are general summaries of the Problem Wildlife Field Services-Enforcement Activities:

TABLE 1
WOLF CONTROL PROGRAM

Region	Complaints	Bait Stations	Wolves Removed
Peace River	44	25	77
Edson	21	22	39
Calgary	14	7	16
Red Deer	1	1	0
TOTAL	114	74	132

N.B. Project Cost: \$65,619, includes wages, rentals, and subsistence. In addition 1200 officer hours were spent on Wolf Depredation Control Work.

FIELD SERVICES - ENFORCEMENT

Prior to the 1974-75 fiscal year, the Field Service - Law Enforcement activity was a part of the Administration program. In a re-organization program carried out during the year, the Field Service - Enforcement Section was made a

BEAR DAMAGE CONTROL PROGRAMS

Previous research by the Fish and Wildlife Division into the "bear-beekeeper" problem resulted in a program designed to abate the financial loss to beekeepers from bear attacks on bee yards. Part of the program involved the removal of

individual bears causing problems. The program was carried out by four, two man crews working out of Grande Prairie, Peace River, Nampa, and Valleyview. Cost of the crew operations was approximately \$44,000. A total of 223 complaints from beekeepers and another 53 general bear complaints resulted in removal of 119 bears.

BEAVER DEPREDATION CONTROL

Beaver causing damage to public utilities such as roads, grades, and culverts, the flooding of productive agricultural land and cutting trees in urban areas was a problem experienced throughout all the regions. Following is a Regional Summary of the damage control work done in response to Beavers causing damage.

TABLE 2

BEAVER DAMAGE BY REGION

	Beaver Taken	Complaints	Dams Removed
Calgary	189	129	35
Red Deer	940	282	228
Edson	235	162	139
St. Paul	902	500	394
Peace River	185	271	110
Edmonton H.Q.	219	72	68
Lethbridge	65	---	10
TOTAL	2735	1416	984

FUR CO-ORDINATOR ACTIVITIES

During the 1974-75 fiscal year the fur co-ordinator activities were primarily oriented toward aiding Alberta Trappers to form a single association. Previously there were several small trapper groups and representation from the wild fur "producer" was fragmented and difficult to effectively consider. In June 1974 a central body was formally organized and is functioning well.

In addition to aiding the trappers in organizing centrally, much effort was spent on developing an effective liason with local groups and in providing instruction on humane trapping methods and proper fur handling. A program to increase the harvest of muskrat by using new trapping methods in the Fort Chipewyan area is underway.

A total of 34 public functions were attended by the Fur Co-ordinator. Plans are currently underway to provide a formalized training for the trapper in co-operation with Canada Manpower and Department of Advanced Education.

FIELD ENFORCEMENT

The 1974-75 fiscal year was marked by an increase in the violations processed for resource infractions. For the first time, according to record, the number of fishery prosecutions out-numbered those for wildlife.

The prosecution information collected does not reflect any major shift in the types of offences being found. Again, as in the past several years, angling without a licence represents the most common violation. An attempt to reduce the frequency of this infraction is planned. Advertising will be done in the Edmonton area as a reminder of licencing requirements.

It is felt the rise in fisheries prosecutions does not totally reflect an overall increase in illegal activity but an increase in manpower and greater mobility through the purchase of better equipment and the use of aircraft in fishery work. At this time it appears reasonable to conclude the number of prosecutions may be a reflection of the level of field activity.

The number of wildlife cases appear to be stabilizing somewhat. According to field reports, the percentage of time spent on wildlife enforcement is relatively the same as past years. The actual hours on wildlife work would be greater in actual time since there were more officers in the work force. During the year there was a rise in the number of persons prosecuted for carrying loaded firearms in vehicles. The frequency of wildlife illegally processed was down considerably. This downward trend, however, is more likely related to a lower general harvest success rate than a decrease in illegal practice per se. Increased use of aircraft for general patrol work appears to be providing a deterring factor. Field Officers indicate the frequency of night hunting complaints, particularly in central-eastern Alberta, is considerably lower than in past years. Officers are of the opinion use of aircraft at night is a significant factor in abating the practice of night hunting.

During the year the Division formally introduced the Outdoor Observer Program in response to organized sportsman's request to provide a vehicle for the concerned sportsman to aid the Division in its law enforcement program. A program emphasizing prevention and reporting was designed. Although plagued by equipment breakdowns the program was given on 75 occasions to approximately 3300 people. In addition, the program was shown on television in Calgary on a Saturday from 7:00 - 7:30 p.m., exposure was estimated at 200,000. Also it was shown on Lethbridge television with an estimated 14,000 viewers.

Officers attended approximately 618 other public functions in an ongoing program of active participation in community affairs. In addition, officers were in attendance at 135 departmental or inter-agency meetings.

TABLE 3

PUBLIC MEETINGS BY REGION

	Departmental	Public	Hunter Training	Total
Lethbridge	40	72	57	169
Calgary	21	80	10	111
Red Deer	13	132	25	170
Edson	11	79	10	100
St. Paul	28	70	19	117
Peace River	18	54	3	75
Edmonton H.Q.	4	5	2	11
TOTAL	135	492	126	753

TABLE 4

OUTDOOR OBSERVER PROGRAM

	Number of Showings	Number of Viewers
Lethbridge	5	229*
Calgary	14	720*
Red Deer	23	1065
Edson	9	311
St. Paul	9	193
Peace River	8	200
Headquarters (Edmonton)	7	497
TOTAL	75	3215

* The Calgary office showed this program on T.V. on a Saturday evening during prime time (7:00 - 7:30 p.m.). Estimated number of viewers is in excess of 200,000, Lethbridge also had prime time T.V. coverage and estimated viewers at 14,000.

TABLE 5

PROSECUTIONS

	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74	1974-75
Investigations	4,455	4,565	4,600	5,545
Prosecutions	1,804	1,905	2,039	2,754*
Convictions	1,654	1,789	1,905	2,618

* Figures include: 57 Dismissals, 79 Withdrawals

TABLE 6

COMMON VIOLATION STRUCTURE

Hunting Infractions	1973-74	1974-75
Illegal Possession of Game	187 - 19.0%	133 - 13.4%
Loaded Firearm	163 - 16.5%	199 - 20.1%
Unlawfully Hunting Closed Season Area	122 - 12.3%	91 - 9.1%
Unlawfully Hunting Without Authority	111 - 11.2%	109 - 11.0%
Fishing Infractions		
Unlawfully Angling Without Authority	574 - 61.1%	725 - 57.7%
More Than One Rod and Line	78 - 8.3%	90 - 7.0%
Angling in Closed Stream	67 - 7.1%	89 - 6.9%

TABLE 7

REGIONAL SUMMARY OF PROSECUTIONS

	Wildlife	Fisheries	Others	Total	Investigations*	Warnings	Complaints
Region I							
Lethbridge	79	99	12	190	302	181	219
Region II							
Calgary	192	219	28	439	773	506	1484
Region III							
Red Deer	139	129	13	281	475	114	1283
Region IV							
Edson	178	261	27	466	295	250	1096
Region V							
St. Paul	243	475	273	991	540	553	1872
Region VI							
Peace River	145	89	28	262	459	204	1197
Headquarters							
Edmonton	14	3	5	22	49	7	365
R.C.M.P.	102	---	---	102	---	---	---
TOTALS	1092	1275	386	2754	2893	1815	7516

* Investigations cover incidents where an investigation was conducted but no court action resulted.

Fig. 1 – PROVINCIAL PROSECUTIONS 1964 - 1975



Fig. 2 – TEN YEAR PROSECUTION TREND

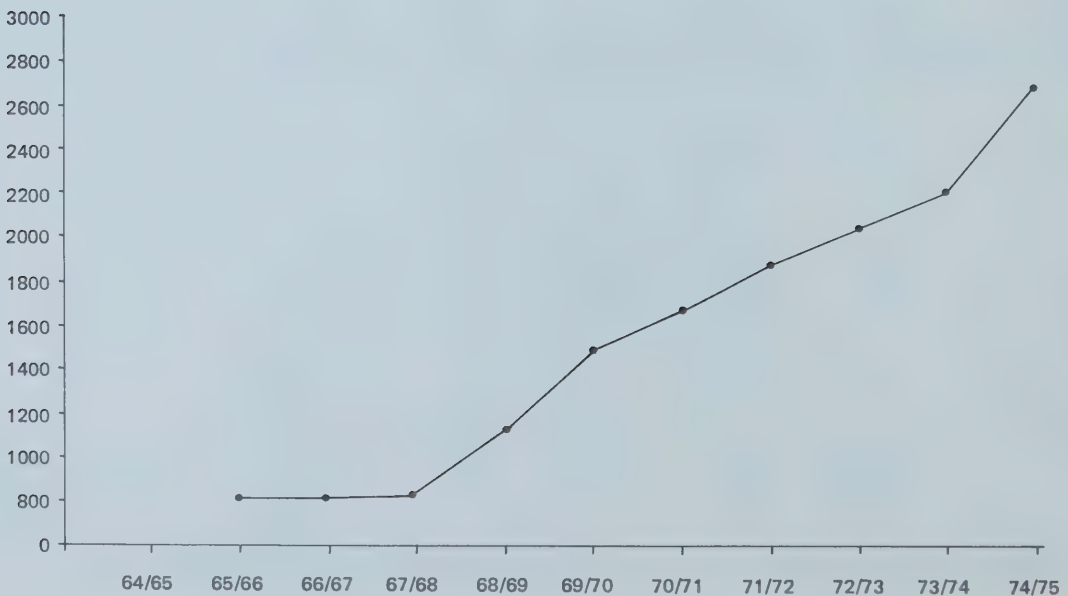


TABLE 8

INFRACTION PERCENTAGE BREAKDOWN BY OCCUPATION GROUPS

	Fisheries Act		Wildlife Act	
	1973-74	1974-75	1973-74	1974-75
Tradesman	26.31	18.50	22.80	21.01
Labourer	18.37	18.48	25.74	23.91
Businessman	17.89	12.01	12.97	8.90
Housewife	8.94	17.03	.78	.20
Student	7.39	16.01	7.60	7.00
Farmer	6.44	7.02	14.67	21.11
Technical	5.25	2.81	4.84	6.70
Professional	3.81	2.43	7.60	3.97
Unemployed	2.86	1.89	1.83	6.54
Retired	2.74	3.82	1.17	.66
TOTAL	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

TABLE 9

RESIDENTIAL BREAKDOWN OF VIOLATORS OF THE
FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE ACTS

	Fisheries Act		Wildlife Act	
	1973-74	1974-75	1973-74	1974-75
Non-Resident	2.66	1.87	2.69	2.89
Urban	64.17	32.81	43.87	34.70
Rural	33.17	65.32	53.44	62.50
TOTAL	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

TABLE 10

AGE GROUPING COMPARISON OF FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE VIOLATORS

Age Grouping	Fisheries Act		Wildlife Act	
	1973-74	1974-75	1973-74	1974-75
14 - 16	---	---	---	4.50
17 - 20	14.50	19.05	16.26	17.02
21 - 25	18.80	19.80	20.83	19.01
26 - 30	14.74	16.03	16.94	15.03
31 - 35	10.73	12.02	10.29	13.21
36 - 40	9.43	9.02	13.54	8.50
41 - 45	8.84	7.05	8.21	8.48
46 - 50	6.95	6.08	4.17	5.61
51 - 55	4.95	5.03	4.30	2.70
56 - 60	4.59	3.03	3.25	3.00
61 - 65	4.36	1.08	1.43	1.71
66 - 70	1.06	1.51	.26	.61
71 - 75	.94	.30	.26	.61
76 - 80	.11	---	.26	.01
TOTAL	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

TABLE 11

AGE GROUPING COMPARISON OF MOST COMMON VIOLATIONS

Age Grouping	Unlawful Possession (Wildlife Act)	No Licence (Wildlife Act)	Closed Season (Wildlife Act)	Loaded Firearms (Wildlife Act)	No Licence (Fishery Regulations)
16 - 20	15.53	31.94	21.33	22.54	16.44
21 - 25	22.33	14.89	18.66	20.81	21.92
26 - 30	15.54	14.89	13.33	14.45	16.63
31 - 35	16.50	8.52	20.00	15.02	10.77
36 - 40	3.83	10.63	9.36	8.92	10.26
41 - 45	8.73	10.63	8.00	5.93	8.31
46 - 50	2.99	3.19	5.33	4.24	6.99
51 - 55	5.82	1.06	1.33	2.89	5.10
56 - 60	1.94	3.19	2.66	1.16	2.26
61 - 65	5.82	1.06	---	1.16	1.32
66 - 70	---	---	---	.57	---
71 - 75	.97	---	---	2.31	---
76 - 80	---	---	---	---	---
TOTAL	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

[illegible]